

FOR RELEASE: January 14, 2000

Paul Announces Academy Nominees *Candidates represent the best of District 14*

Washington, DC -- US Representative Ron Paul this week announced his nominees for the US Service Academies. The student's hometowns span the length of the large and geographically diverse 14th District of Texas. District 14 covers an area including the Texas Gulf Coast, the Coastal Plains and the Texas Hill Country. Each year, Members of Congress nominate students from their district to the US Military Academy at West Point, NY., the US Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md., the US Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs, Co., and the US Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, NY. "Being chosen to attend one of the service academies is both a high honor and a serious responsibility," Paul stated. "The men and women that are appointed receive one of the best educations available. In exchange, they agree to serve their nation in the armed services. Our military needs the strong leadership provided by well educated individuals to be able to defend the liberty that was so hard won and could be so easily lost." The students were selected through a rigorous application process that included interviews with Rep. Paul's Academy Nomination Committee. The committee is made up of community minded individuals representing all parts of the 14th district and include Committee Chairman Don Loucks (USAF, Ret.) of Bastrop, Gen. Edwin Wenglar (USAF, Ret.) of Francitas, Col. Jim Peck (USAF, Ret.) of Lago Vista, Mr. Jim Deats of Blanco, West Point Graduate Dr. Ray Jess of Brazoria County, Mrs. Denise Collier (Asst. Superintendent, Bastrop ISD), Major Simon Benavides of the US Air Force Academy, and Congressman Paul's military and veterans affairs legislative aide Scott Green. "Even though the interview process was not easy, the nominees had already completed the most difficult aspect of receiving a nomination prior to their appearance before my nomination committee," commented Paul. "Their many years of hard work in school, on the sports field and developing their leadership skills were the real test of their abilities. These students represent the best and brightest the 14th District of Texas and the United States have to offer. We would do well to have each one of these fine young men and women serving in our military and leading our nation." Rep. Paul has nominated one principal nominee to each of the three military service academies. For the US Military Academy at West Point, Rep. Paul selected Stoney Portis of Lockhart as his principal nominee. For the principal nomination to the US Naval Academy, Rep. Paul selected Michael James Stoner of Buda

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Dan Eric Crow of Lexington

received Rep. Paul's principal nomination to the US Air Force Academy. While nominated, each candidate must still face further examination by the academies before they are offered an appointment to this year's class of freshmen cadets and midshipmen. "I wish each one of these young people well in their endeavors and know they will serve our state and nation well, regardless of whether or not they attend an academy or serve in the military. The people of the 14th District should be proud of each of these young men and women."

Rep. Paul's Academy Nominees:

US Military Academy (Army)

Stoney PortisLockhartPrincipal Nominee

Adam Charles CmerekTaylorCompetitive Nomination

Geoffrey Michael ComleyWoodbridge, VACompetitive Nomination

Richard Alan CookKyleCompetitive Nomination

Justin R MueryRockportCompetitive Nomination

Scott Alan MerryBudaCompetitive Nomination

Paul Wenceslaus PenaSan MarcosCompetitive Nomination

Mark Allen ReidWest ColumbiaCompetitive Nomination

John David RoatenRock PortCompetitive Nomination

Jacob Henry ShalleyVan VleckCompetitive Nomination

*US Naval Academy(Navy and Marines)*

Michael James StonerBudaPrincipal Nominee

Richard Alan CookKyleCompetitive Nomination

Benjamin Joseph DullnigBudaCompetitive Nomination

Daniel James FlakeDripping SpringsCompetitive Nomination

Stephen Mahoney FordVictoriaCompetitive Nomination

Daniel James GrummanVictoriaCompetitive Nomination

Alan William KruppaLaGrangeCompetitive Nomination

Grant Wesley MillerVictoriaCompetitive Nomination

Paul Wenceslause PenaSan MarcosCompetitive Nomination

Roxane Wilma QuinonesCedar CreekCompetitive Nomination

*US Air Force Academy*

Dan Eric CrowLexingtonPrincipal Nominee

Geoffrey Michael ComleyWoodbridge, VACompetitive Nomination

Benjamin Joseph DullnigBudaCompetitive Nomination

Daniel Jame FlakeDripping SpringsCompetitive Nomination

Justin R MueryRockportCompetitive Nomination

Erica S LankfordLulingCompetitive Nomination

Cecilia Concepcion RamirezBay CityCompetitive Nomination

John David RoatenRockportCompetitive Nomination

James Christopher SprysBay CityCompetitive Nomination

Jonathan Armstrong ThomasColumbusCompetitive Nomination

*US Merchant Marine*

Geoffrey Michael ComleyWoodbridge, VaNomination

Richard Alan CookKyleNomination

Dan Eric CrowLexingtonNomination

Benjamin Joseph DullnigBudaNomination

Alan William KruppaLaGrangeNomination

Erica S LankfordLulingNomination

Paul Wenceslaus PenaSan MarcosNomination

Stoney PortisLockhartNomination

Michael James StonerBudaNomination

Jonathan Armstrong ThomasColumbusNomination